

the white and yellow turnips, the white and red onions, and brown and white oranges filled a truck as long as a street car.

Valentine No. 7 arrived at 7 o'clock in the morning, and there is a nice little store connected with it. Yesterday Farmer Carey, of Flatlands, L. I., came to town to make some collections. He struck Murray street at noon and wondered "what under the snow those wretched-looking women and half-naked, half-frozen children were hanging about."

He went in to find out, and, being short of help, Mr. Mergentime put him to work, and for three hours he filled empty baskets with sweet, sound vegetables and handed them over the plank counter with an encouraging "There you are, old chap, or a sympathetic 'Don't cry, madam, it won't be winter always.'"

It was too late to collect any money when the Free Food Commission doors were closed, and this member of nature's nobility went home and made up the valentines from his own pen. The valentines for the morning.

Valentine No. 8 was the tribute of Mr. Daniel M. Sullivan, better known as "Nolay Dan." For nearly forty years "Nolay Dan" has been a character in Washington Market, where hustling and hollering have made him famous.

He lives on Jersey City Heights. In the market he wears an officer's cap and a russet leather jacket, and everybody likes him, and everybody has a good word to say for him.

It occurred to "Nolay Dan" that he might be able to stir up some of the hopeless poor with a comic valentine, and yesterday he bought a load of greens and a load of potatoes, turnips and parsnips, and sent them to "The Evening World" with the best respects of Daniel M. Sullivan.

Little valentines without any name and too numerous to number came in the form of lemons, "Kitchen bouquets," hominy, dried fruit and nuts.

Mr. M. Moses, the Vesey street butcher, took in a load of beef, and with his own big, generous, honest hands, helped cut it up in five-pound pieces.

Commissioner Merchant Jacob Ham-burger telegraphed from St. Augustine, Fla., where he is spending his vacation, to Dennis Lynch, his manager, to put the team, truck, office and outside help at the disposal of "The Evening World."

Manager Lynch not only did so, but in donating turnips, potatoes and cabbage by the box, did what he knew his employer would have done had he been in town to witness the competitive liberality of his neighbors.

That was a good example set by Messrs. Lewis Sylvester & Son, tobacco merchants. This morning J. G. Laver, produce dealer, of 171 Manhattanville avenue, Jersey City, followed it with a check to pay the cartage of the old people.

Robert Duke, of Harrison, N. Y., who grows choice celery, lettuce and escarole, wrote his check for \$5, and an hour later came back and trumped his own ace.

Bright and early Mr. Mergentime had a taller. A black wagon stopped at the call-door, and a sister of charity, a little girl came out. That black wagon and that gentle nun from St. Francis's Hospital call as regularly as Wednesday dawns.

Speaking of the colossal merchant, the Slater said:

"Mr. Mergentime is the best friend I have in the world. His gifts to us are given and beautiful—a real blessing. We have had two hundred out-door poor at our gate every day this year. Since 'The Evening World's' Free Food Commission opened we have been able to give them tickets and reserve our supplies for the two hundred and fifty in the sick wards."

And this is the way St. Valentine's Day was kept at No. 90 Murray street. Hurrah for the tender-hearted farmers and the good old market men.

**CAME EARLY FOR FOOD.**  
Crowd at the Commission Long Before Opening Hours.

How widely the distribution of free food by "The Evening World" Commission at 90 Murray street is known among those who are in need was evidenced again today by the large crowd that gathered in front of the place hours before the doors were unlocked.

Though the rush has necessitated that the supplies contributed by the whole-some and generous merchants of the city be only given out between the hours of 11 and 2, a fair number of people, mostly women, were in line by 10 o'clock.

The number kept increasing until by the time the doors were opened the street and sidewalks were fairly impassable.

Max Mergentime, the produce merchant who has taken hold of the free food project with such vim, hustled about all the morning lending a helping hand whenever needed. His teams were kept on a run gathering up the produce of the wholesale and retail dealers of the neighborhood.

Young Jacob Hamburger, Mr. Mergentime's manager, and one of the main-branches of the commission, who has been doing the heavy lifting, has been only to mention "The Evening World's" Free Food Commission to the merchants to be told to "send along the goods."

Inspector of Incumbents Schlesinger was one of the earliest visitors this morning at the Murray street headquarters. He struck the door and found a line of people waiting for the distribution of the free food.

To secure the distribution of the food supplies to all deserving cases, "The Evening World" Commission has decided only to give out food on the presentation of the ticket printed by the commission for that purpose. These tickets are not to be recognized from today.

Where to get tickets.

It must be distinctly understood that no tickets are given out at the "The Evening World." They are distributed among clergymen in various parts of the city, and are given out at the Commission, 90 Murray street.

Among the applicants, and one of the earliest at that, was a German Jew, a young man, who had walked up the way from Eighty-third street. He said his family of six grown-up boys and girls had been out of work for several months.

The rules were suspended in his case, and he was sent away with as much food as he could carry. He was also given a card-home. Pleasant, a colored girl of fifteen, living with her mother and grandfather, both of them sick, fairly cried with cold and hunger as she stood in front of the Commission awaiting her turn. Her toes were out of her sodden shoes, and she stood in the icy slush, waiting for the food.

She had nothing to eat since Monday night, and she had been waiting for the food for three days. She was a small, thin, brown-skinned woman, with a sad, weary expression.

years, living at 530 West Forty-fifth street, said her husband had had no work for three months. Her baby, a week old, was sick for want of food, and she had none to give it. She was given an extra supply and went away grateful.

At 1 o'clock today, two hours after the Commission opened, the line of applicants for relief reached from 90 Murray street to around the corner to the middle of Broadway. The line of the waiting, crowded together in the street, a distance by actual measurement of 312 feet. The line was packed close together, and the people could scarcely move.

In many parts of the line the people were made up of three or four of the waiting, crowded together in the street, a distance by actual measurement of 312 feet. The line was packed close together, and the people could scarcely move.

Six police officers were needed to preserve order. The Second Precinct, which was in charge of the line, and his men have their hands full all day.

It is estimated that the line of the waiting, crowded together in the street, a distance by actual measurement of 312 feet. The line was packed close together, and the people could scarcely move.

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## MANGLED BY LIONS.

Man Attacked in a Cage When the Lights Went Out.

Midwinter Fair Audience Panicked in the Darkness.

Col. Boone's Daring Rescue of His Imperiled Assistant.

(By Associated Press.)  
SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 14.—Carlos Thiemann, attendant at Col. Daniel Boone's animal show at the Midwinter Fair, was attacked by three lions last night and so horribly mangled that he may die. The evening performance had been brought to a close by the closing of the lights, and the audience was in the midst of a general commotion.

Three huge beasts, Parnell, Romeo and Commodore, were in the cage by Thiemann's preparatory to Boone's enclosure was filled with people. The wild animals are exhibited in a large cage in the center of the arena, and it was time for the lions to go on.

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## REAGAN'S BID TAKEN.

He Will Pay \$3,025 to Fill in the Park Depression.

Plunkitt & McManus Offered \$300 for the Contract.

"The Evening World" Enables the City to Gain the Difference.

(By Associated Press.)  
PARTNERS Plunkitt and McManus, the twin Tammany leaders in the Eighteenth district, will not get the contract for the privilege of filling in the depression in Central Park, for which they offered the city \$300 without the formality of advertising for bids.

"The Evening World" showed that the privilege was worth considerable more than Plunkitt and McManus were willing to give. It did not occur to the Park Board before that it would be in the interest of the city to invite competitive proposals.

The offer of Plunkitt & McManus was made on Feb. 7. Subsequent to that time the city was published Feb. 9. The bids were opened to-day. There were nine bidders. Thomas Reagan, of 719 Lexington avenue, was the highest and successful bidder.

Plunkitt & McManus's offer was \$300. Reagan's bid was \$3,025, thanks to the vigilance of "The Evening World."

All of the bidders offered more than Plunkitt & McManus. Such a result was expected. Reagan's bid was \$3,025, thanks to the vigilance of "The Evening World."

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## Here go the Overcoats.

Some \$30

Melton Overcoats

for \$10

The finest Overcoats you ever saw. That's saying a good bit, but it's so. These Overcoats are as good as any \$30 ones. Long, deep and full.

Wise investors are those who are buying them for next season.

The only reason we sell these stylish, well-made Overcoats for \$10 is because our settled policy is "We won't carry anything over." Every season's goods must be sold the same season they are made, so—

Here go the Overcoats, \$10.

E.O. THOMPSON  
TAILOR, CLOTHIER AND IMPORTER,  
245 BROADWAY,  
Between Park Place and Murray St.

Without Cash Deposit.

EVERYTHING AS ADVERTISED, WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS OF ANY KIND. WE HAVE NO OTHER SATISFACTION OF YOUR ABILITY TO MAKE THE WEEKLY PAYMENT NAMED.

Everything for Housekeeping.

CHEAPEST CREDIT HOUSE IN AMERICA.

J. BAUMANN & BRO.,  
1313 to 1315 Third Ave.,  
Bet. 75th and 76th Sts.  
Open Saturdays till 10 P. M.

Without Cash Deposit.

EVERYTHING AS ADVERTISED, WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS OF ANY KIND. WE HAVE NO OTHER SATISFACTION OF YOUR ABILITY TO MAKE THE WEEKLY PAYMENT NAMED.

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